

Water Bill Rate Changes - Frequently Asked Questions

300 W. Cotton St. | [Click here for map](#) [1]

The City of Longview has approved rate changes for water and wastewater service for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year. The new rates have been applied and will appear as part of the October billing cycle, which includes bills sent to customers on October 10, 20, and 30. Please note: the new rates may include September consumption. For more information, please visit LongviewTexas.gov or call the Water Utilities Department at 903-237-1030.

Why change rates?

The City of Longview's goal is to provide a water service that is economical and efficient. Although the City's costs to provide service have increased, the City has not increased water rates since 2007. The water rate needs to cover the regular expense of providing the service, plus provide a minimum level of savings to cover other expenses that arise. Recently though, our cost of providing water service has been greater than the revenue generated by water customer payments, which means that the City at times had to use water fund reserves (savings) to cover the difference. By adjusting the water rates, the City should be able to maintain an adequate balance between revenue, expenses, and fund balance for this budget year.

Approximately, how will the rate changes affect my total bill?*

For a household with a 5/8" water meter, the average increase in monthly cost would be \$2.13.

For a household with a 1" water meter, the average increase in monthly cost would be \$12.90.

For a location with a 2" water meter, the average increase in monthly cost would be \$50.56.

Estimated Change to Average City of Longview Utility Bill Based on Meter Size				
Meter Size	Average Monthly Consumption	Current Monthly Charge	New Monthly Charge	Difference in Monthly Cost
5/8"	7,000 gallons	\$46.14	\$48.27	\$2.13
1"	10,000 gallons	\$61.71	\$74.64	\$12.90
2"	50,000 gallons	\$290.10	\$340.66	\$50.56

*The effect on individual water bills differs based on two factors: meter size and water usage. Different locations have different meter sizes. A general rule of thumb suggests that usually older homes have a 5/8" meter, newer homes have a 1" meter, and commercial properties have a larger meter.

What is the water base rate as a portion of my total bill?

This is the minimum rate that is charged to water customers as part of the overall water utility bill. The base rate includes 2,000 gallons of water usage. The base rate differs according to water meter size.

<i>Water Base Rate</i>		
Meter Size	Current Rate	New Rate
5/8"	\$9.57	\$9.57
1"	9.57	19.14
1 ½"	19.77	38.49
2"	30.36	61.16
3"	60.62	122.29
4"	102.94	209.76
6"	223.96	433.85
8"	393.34	673.41

What is the water volumetric rate as a portion of my total bill?

This is the rate that is charged beyond the initial base rate for any water usage above the included 2,000 gallons. The volumetric rate is charged per 1,000 gallons of water used. The new rate effective October 1, 2010 will change the water consumption rate to \$2.30 per 1,000 gallons.

Water Volumetric Rate

Monthly Consumption	Current Rate per 1,000 gallons	New Rate per 1,000 gal
2,000 to 50,000	\$2.00	\$2.30
50,000 to 5,000,000	1.77	2.30
> 5,000,000	1.87	2.30

What are the wastewater rates as a portion of my total bill?

As part of the overall water utility bill, the City charges for the collection and treatment of wastewater (sewer). According to the proposal, the base wastewater rate would increase by 8 cents from \$10.62 to \$10.70. Also, the wastewater volumetric rate, which is the rate per 1000 gallons, would increase by 11 cents from \$3.19 to \$3.30. The base rate includes 2,000 gallons.

Does the proposal change rates for Sanitation (trash collection)?

No, sanitation rates for residential trash collection are remaining the same. The sanitation services are paid as a part of the overall utility bill.

For more information call: 903-237-1030 | [Contact Us](#) [2]

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Links:

- [1] http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=300+W+cotton+st.+75601&sll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=30.185946,59.501953&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=300+W+Cotton+St,+Longview,+Gregg,+Texas+75601&ll=32.495447,-94.746373&spn=0.007836,0.014527&z=16
- [2] <http://water.longviewtexas.gov/services-contact#WaterUtilities@LongviewTexas.gov>